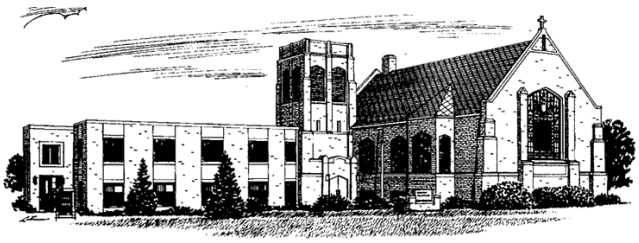


The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Emily Gaul, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

September 2018

We said "yes!" As a congregation, we said "yes" to a visioning process and subsequent Capital Appeal. Mary Alice Brunner and Dennis Lundgren have said "yes" to be co-chairs of the appeal. So yes, the process has already begun. Thank you, Dennis and Mary Alice!

On Sunday, September 9, you will have another time to say "yes." This time it is to accept the invitation to be part of Saron's mission planning event.

Everyone is encouraged to be part of the visioning process from 12-4 on that day, immediately following our 2nd service. Lunch will be provided. This is a time to intentionally and prayerfully discern next steps for Saron's ministry. Luke Bouman, our consultant, will lead us through the process.

Where is God leading us? I am excited to know what ventures are in store as we live more fully into the vision of "joyfully sharing God's love for all!!!" How will God's "yes" for us in Jesus Christ be our "yes" for the sake of the world?

Pastor Joan

Labor Day Weekend Worship
at Tiscornia Park Pavilion
September2, 2018

9:30 am Holy Communion, followed by potluck
Tableware provided. Bring your own lawn chair, if you wish, or there is seating available at the picnic tables. If you are a resident of the City of St. Joseph, register your car for free parking at City Hall. Non-resident parking costs $10.00. Hourly rates are also available. Meet at Saron at 9 am to car pool.

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: ***Arla Huelsberg*** *is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph;* ***Lila Roethel*** *is at the Willows;* ***Bernice Koski*** *is at Woodland Terrace;* ***Virginia Anserello*** *is at Pine Ridge, Stevensville; and* ***Jean Pearson*** *is at Caretel, St. Joseph, MI*

Serving in the military:
Andy Wedde – **California**

Office Hours at Saron
Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Weds afternoon
Call for other times/changes
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in September 2018.

Sept. 3 – Chelsea Knauf
4 – Nicole Coar
10 - David Siewert
12 - Charles Fortenbacher
13 - Sally Schmuhl
15 - Dan Fortenbacher
Deanna Deaton
16 - William Oleson
17 - John Olson
Jessica (Schmidt) Zubik
18 – Wendy Hoffman
Grant Gacek
20 - Todd Gorman
23 - David Stankiewicz
Kathy Cowall
24 - Suzanne Fortenbacher
Marybeth Culverhouse
25 - Colleen Lundgren
Kirsten (Talbert) Gulley
27 - Jack Houser

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members in September 2018

Sept. 3 - Scott and Kate Kohs
7 –Peter and Karen Johnson
10 - John and Pam Olson
11 - Bill and Marge Teal
12 –Shawn and Heidi de la Foret
Gordon and Lorraine Mikesell

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sun. Sep. 2 —
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sun. Sep. 9 —
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

Sun. Sep. 16 —
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
*I*saiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

Sun. Sep. 23 —
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 3:13 — 4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Sun. Sep. 30 —
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Nursery News
We're back to two services so we need two volunteers each Sunday to be in the nursery. Our paid childcare worker will do the majority of the work but we need another person to be there. You may be willing to serve during the service time you attend or some choose to attend one service and volunteer at the other. Your assignments can be adjusted to your availability. You can sign up on the kiosk or let Marilyn Lucy know you are interested.

PRAYER GROUP
Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle -
The meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, in the church lounge. Janet Larson will be the hostess and Linda Pater will be the study leader.

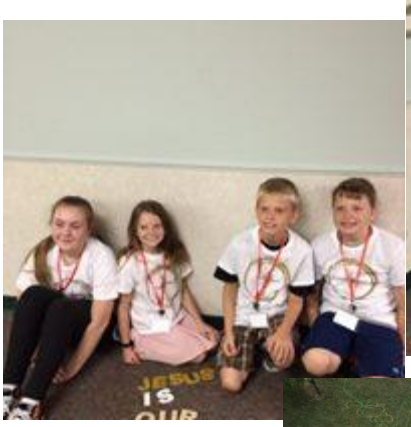
Learning

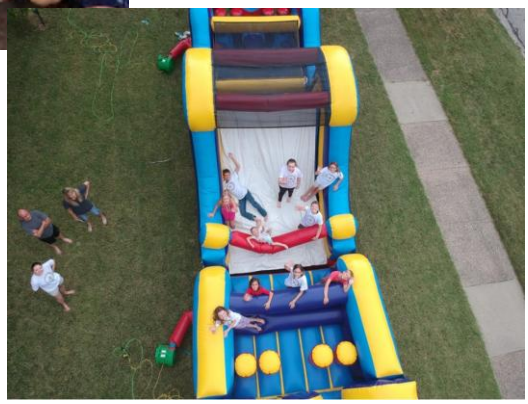
book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

Blessing of Students & Teachers
It's back to school and Sunday School! We will have a blessing of students and teachers at both services on Sunday, September 9th.

Vacation Bible School
Thank you to all who made this year's VBS – **"True North: Jesus Is Our Treasure"** a great success. A special thanks to Kristen Harper and Amanda Bradley for their leadership in planning.





FALL LEARNING HOUR NEWS
Our Fall programming begins September 9 at 9:40 am. There are classes for ages 2-adults!

Those who are in high school or below will meet in the downstairs Sunday School wing. This includes Confirmation students, grades 6-8. The adult forum will be held upstairs in the lounge.

Questions? Contact Kristen Harper

EPHESUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP
The Ephesus study group will meet at 5:00 pm on Sunday, September 23 at the home of Brad and Marillyn Frey. We are studying Jesus' parables as discussed in the book "Short Stories by Jesus", written by Amy-Jill Levine. Following our discussions, we share a simple meal. Please call or talk to someone from the group if you'd be interested in trying out this eclectic group that enjoys a variety of studies -- and good food! (Mary Kynast, 921-3816)

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study
Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00pm at the church. At 7:00pm we adjourn for a time of fellowship (something to eat and something to drink). We know everyone is busy so Bible study is a "come as you can" group. All men are invited to join in.

For more information call or text Bob Kynast at 269-921-2786 or bobkynast@gmail.com or Sid at 312-209-1301 or sidmohn@gmail.com.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).
Bob Kynast
bobkynast@gmail.com
269-921-2786

Thursday Morning Bible Study
"Being the Body of Christ" is the series that will begin our studies in September. This **4-session Bible study** will explore the following themes:

- Do we see ourselves as the gifted Body of Christ? (1 Cor. 12:1-11)
- What is the gift of the Body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 12:12-31)
- How does the gift of love shape the Body of Christ? (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)
- Are we giving what we were given? (1 Corinthians 15:1-11)

The cost of the book is $5.25. The class will meet on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00. Please join us!

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast
Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast will again resume on October 6th at the Galley Grill in Stevensville at 9:00 a.m.

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Join us October 7th, 6:30 in the upstairs lounge. "Little Fires Everywhere", by Celeste Ng is a perfect book choice to kick off a new season of reading, talking and sharing ideas. It has been named Best Book of the Year by too many review sources to count. Amazon says: "It explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood, and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster". It will make for a broad discussion of many topics. Don't miss it.

There are book marks available in the Narthex with the entire 2018/2019 schedule of meetings and chosen books. Come and join in the discussions whenever you can. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Kathy Cowall (269) 428-0354 or kcowall@hotmail.com.
"Life is just a series of obstacles preventing you from reading your book".
(www.belcastroagency.com)

February 10, 2019 "40 Autumns" by Nina Willner
November 4, 2018 "Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horwitz
March 3, 2019 "Then She Found Me" by Elinor Lipman
December 2, 2018 "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreiser
April 7, 2018 " Young Jane Young" by Gabrielle Zevin
May 5, 2019 "Abide With Me" by Elizabeth Strout

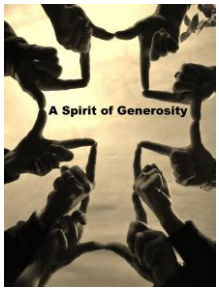
"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." (Anna Quindlen)

Support

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving
Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STOCK DONATIONS
Saron partners with TD Ameritrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick to receive the account number for which the shares will be transferred to. Once the transaction has been completed, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick the name of the stock, the number of shares, and the date of the transfer. This allows the transaction to be completed and ensures it is included on your giving statement.
Thanks! Matt Bradley, treasurer

Are you a Thrivent member?
If so, you have an opportunity to help with the funding of a work project, as coordinated through our Outreach or Facilities teams. Please let Janet Oleson or Pastor know if you are a member, have interest or questions.



STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE

....with glad and generous hearts, praising God .... Acts 2:46c

September is promising to be a very exciting time for Saron. We will begin the process of working with The Enrichment Group, a consulting firm to help us work through a visioning process for Saron including a Capital Fund Appeal to accomplish our mission here at Saron.

As we meet and plan together, may we prayerfully create a vision for Saron that will carry our mission into the next 20 years and beyond. May we continue to give generously of time, talent, and treasure as we have in the past. May we honor and praise God in our worship, in our visioning, in our giving, and in our decision making. And may we carry these oft repeated words in our hearts: **Go and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

God's Work. Our Hands.

God's Work. Our Hands Activities

Saturday September 15th from 9 a.m. to noon we will be helping with the semi-annual beach clean up at Jean Klock Park. This will involve cleaning up debris from the sand and possibly pulling or cutting back invasive weeds. They are trying to get free parking for us for this event. Please join us! A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk.

Also, the youth will be sorting school supplies on September 9 during the S.S. hour.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Outreach

BENTON HARBOR SOUP KITCHEN

On July 26 Saron members served 152 meals at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen. Our volunteers that day were Sue Harris , Kathie & Dave Bradley, Coanne Hohman, & Ruth Ball. A smile, a kind word, & hot food – what a great way to continue Saron's mission of God's Work, Our Hands. Cookies bakers in July were Katie Hooper, Amy Nelson, Karen Johnson, Jan Taylor, Beth Gray-Roll, Laurel Gacek, Deanna Deaton, Janet Larson, & the Dorcas Circle. Special thanks to Irma Gorman who provided musical treats for all to enjoy.

Large cans of fruit are always needed at the Soup Kitchen & can be dropped off anytime at the church. Any questions or to volunteer or provide cookies please contact Kathie Bradley at 269-427-7083.

MEET ME AT THE FREEZER

We will need a volunteer to be in charge of organizing "Meet Me at the Freezer" project. If you have interest, contact Pastor. Thank you! The freezer meals are available down in the dining room in the LARGE freezer. If you know of someone who could use a meal, for any reason, please take it to them or invite them to take one after worship. No questions asked. Enjoy!

Interfaith Justice

Interfaith Justice (in which Saron participates) is inviting input as it begins to define its peace and justice agenda for the coming year. Here's a simple survey you can use to submit your recommendations (the survey takes about 5 minutes): Here's the survey link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/99P2J8V.

MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Our next drive is Monday, **October 29th.** It is exactly 112 days from our last drive so even if you did a double-red donation you will be eligible to give blood again. We could use a couple people at the end to help reset the dining room. If you are able to stop by that evening it would be greatly appreciated. Please look for the sign-up sheets closer to the date or let Marilyn Lucy know of your willingness.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Hopefully you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer! Before we know it school will be starting! If you have looked in the local stores, school supplies are all ready on sale. This year Saron will be collecting school supplies for Lybrook Elementary School in Eau Claire. Supplies may be donated through September 10. A basket is in the narthex. Listed below are much needed items:

Dry erase markers, crayons, pencils, glue sticks, spiral notebooks, hand sanitizer, Kleenex(tissue), erasers, paper towel, disinfecting wipes, colored pencils, post it notes, stickers. Let's help these students start off the school year with the supplies they need. Thank you, Outreach

"Joyfully Sharing God's Love For All." Yes, that is what Saron does every day.

FACEBOOK & WORSHIP VIDEO

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. Portions of our worship are being recorded for the purpose of sharing with those who are not able to attend worship, particularly those who are home bound. If you have questions, or prefer your picture not to appear on a video, please contact Aaron Becker (at the camera) or Pastor.

Are you and/or your child interested in his/her coming to the meal each Sunday? Saron's Communion practice is to offer instruction and First Communion to children of any age, per the decision of the individual family in conversation with the pastor. Typically instruction includes 2 sessions with Pastor Joan and learning time with parents between. Classes will be offered this fall. Please let Pastor know of your interest so that a time can be arranged.

Facilities

Lawn Mowers Needed

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers to mow the yards instead of hiring that work out saved the church an estimated $1,100.00 in expenses last year.

Please sign-up to help the church save money and keep our grounds looking good. The church has its own lawn mower. Even some high school members could mow with direction from parents. If you have any questions please see or notify Bill Oleson.

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED

Please save your used ink cartridges as we receive rebates to be used on office supplies. There is a collection box in the Narthex. Thank you.

Council News

Attendance Record	
07/29/2018	*92*
08/05/2018	*67*
08/12/2718	*64*
08/19/2018	*78*

Saron's Council Members – 2018

Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Vice President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Treasurer
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Secretary
+++
Tyler Cook (429-5550) – Worship
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth
Don Hafer (269-470-2255) - Support
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Hospitality
Judy Huff (473-5075) - Hospitality
Kristen Harper (277-9277) – Learning
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office; 983-2475 home) – Pastor

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

September 2018

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

Our Fall schedule begins September 9

8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship with Holy Communion; childcare provided

9:40 A.M. Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Saron
September Volunteer Schedule

	Labor Day Tiscornia Park Sept 2	**September 9** ***Sixteenth* Sunday after Pentecost**		**September 16** ***Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost***		**September 23** ***Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***		**September 30** **Nineteenth Sunday after** ***Pentecost***	
	9:30	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**	**8:30**	**11:00**
Assisting minister	Bob Deacton	Eric Standen	Bill Oleson	Wendy King	Bob Kynast	Sue Rood	Bob Deaton	Pauline Ngonyani	Scott Kohs
Reader/ Comm. Asst.	Denise Cook	Karen Hinckley	Don Hafer	Fran Richards	Bob Hopkins	Eric Standen	Connie Slater	Jim Manore	Colleen Lundgren
Ushers		Walt and Sally Schmuhl	Jerry and Ruth Stelling	Jim Manore and Steve Bell	Scott and Lindsay Gaspari	Elizabeth Kunkel and Fran Richards	Peter and Karen Johnson	Brad and Marilyn Frey	Pat Breyen and Rebecca Sebrechts
Acolyte									
Nursery 1st		Jenna Henderson	Mary Kynast	Marilyn Frey	Darlene Kiessel	Deb Standen	Laura Stark	Janet Larson	Marilyn Lucy
Nursery 2nd		Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul	Emily Gaul
Bldg. close			Marilyn and Brad Frey		Bob Hopkins		Dave & Kathie Bradley		Colleen and Dennis Lundgren
Snacks									
Lawn mower			Jim Manore		Brad Frey		Don Hafer		
Flowers			Peter and Karen Johnson		Gacek Family		Colleen Lundgren		

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 2:00 p.m. Wedding
2 9:30 a.m. Worship at Tiscornia Park (Outside service)	**3** Office Closed Labor Day	**4** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**5** 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00pm Bible Study	**6** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m Choir Rehearsal	**7**	8
9 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday School Year begins 12pm Lunch &Visioning	**10** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter Articles due	**11** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Support Committee	**12** 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Deborah Circle	**13** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	**14**	15 Capital Appeal Leadership Team Training Clean-Up at Jean Klock Park 9 am
16 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**17** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	**18** 4:00 p.m. Vasa 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**19** 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00pm Bible Study	**20** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	**21**	22
23 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes	**24** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**25** 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**26** 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Interfaith Collaborative at Saron	**27** 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	**28**	29
30 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. SCS Classes						